

# News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **DES Clarifies Community Chemical Release Data**

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) recently reviewed EPA's Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) data for 2005. EPA releases this information to the public each year to allow communities throughout the U.S. to track chemical releases to air, water and land from affected industries. In the most recent TRI report released March 22, 2007, DES discovered a significant reporting error that requires some clarification.

According to the 2005 TRI report, Tillotson Rubber in Dixville Notch reported unusually high dioxin emissions (138.835 grams/year) from combustion of wood at their facility. Using the reported emissions, New Hampshire ranked as the 17<sup>th</sup> highest dioxin emitter in the country with a total of 141.187 grams of dioxin emitted in 2005. DES subsequently contacted Tillotson and found that they had incorrectly calculated their dioxin emissions, resulting in the over-reporting of dioxin and dioxin-like compounds released to the environment by almost 1,000 times. Tillotson is currently in the process of re-calculating their emissions, and providing the corrected reporting forms to EPA. When these corrections are finalized, actual total statewide dioxin emissions reported are expected to be approximately 2 to 3 grams/year, ranking New Hampshire as 48<sup>th</sup> in the country.

EPA's next TRI report will reflect these corrections. Until then, DES wanted to inform the citizens of New Hampshire that our dioxin levels are not nearly as high as initially reported.

This new information concurs with EPA's summary which states that the 2005 data demonstrates that progress is continuing in reducing TRI releases across the country.

For more information please contact Richard Rumba, NH DES at 603-271-1987

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